

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Aug 29 19:38:00 1995
From: JimN00CT@aol.com
Subject: [2890] 5W QRP amplifiers...
Message-ID: <950828202350_85657392@mail06.mail.aol.com>

Brien Pepperidine wrote (awhile back)

>A couple, a few of us here (me, to start with) are wondering what, if
>any, are the available things to make an 5 watt amp we could stick on the
>end of a NorCal 40/40A/ Sierra, SWL/NE xx-40, OHR smaller stuff - the
>sort of things that are at best giving .95 to 2.5 watts out at best.
>Some of those rigs have great qsk, and that is certainly of interest to
>preserve the qsk feature.

Ok, ok, ok, we'll have to let the Cat(hode) out of the bag. SLQS [St. Louis QRP Society] has just finished Phase II of the "Plug-on Amp" project. It is a plug on unit that requires an RF connector [of your choice, mine is BNC] for input from your radio, an RF connector for output (5W) and +12V dc.

That's it. It has an RF sensed T/R switch and will work with RF output from your NN1G/NorCal/Other/Heathkit from [projecting here, this will be in Phase III] 0.2 to 2+W output. This baby will put out a solid 5W and will be designed as a single band amp, and can be scaled for 160 through 15 meters [again, projecting here]. It will have minimal parts count and works like a charm (not projecting here). I have worked both coasts and TI [Costa Rica] on 40 meters with this amp, including 2 (FLA and CT) 2-way QRP QSO's. It works beautifully. We will have this available before the end of December [makes a great Hanukkah, Christmas, Druid Tree Fest, or (for Nils, especially) Smjelbordt gift]. More details later.

If you want to really find out how this thing works, listen to 40 meters for N00CT between 0100-0330 UTC and 1100-1145 UTC. I won't tell you the big secret about "40 Meters In The Morning Lately" however....

72, 73, HIKE!

Jim N00CT
jimn0oct@aol.com

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Aug 29 19:38:00 1995
From: rgobrick@public.compusult.nf.ca (Robert J. Gobrick)
Subject: [2895] Colorado QRP Club QSO Party
Message-ID: <199508291215.JAA09504@public.compusult.nf.ca>

QRP-L Gang,

Summer seems to be going by quickly and in it's quickness I almost forgot

about the Colorado QRP Club QSO Party that was held this past Sunday. Anyway I was able to jump on for a few hours (1800-2400 UTC) and mainly stuck to 20 meters (my only hope of getting into Colorado from Newfoundland).

Anyway 20 meters had a propagation like Chuck Adams was describing the other day for 30 meters. The band reminded me of a summer day at the beach (let us stretch our imaginations here..). The signals came in like sets of waves breaking. First there would be a flurry of midwest breaker stations coming in (K0FRP - landlocked in Colorado, was riding the crest of all the big waves), then there would be a lull and bingo the east coast "breakers" would come rolling in NY, NJ, PA, MD, VA, MA, CT. Then another lull and the Big Kahuna European's started breaking - G, DL, EA, IV and finally as the day wore on the breaker sets would be further apart and shorter duration (good time for all surfer dudes to come in for a few Mammosas). Very interesting propagation for a lazy summer afternoon.

Anyway made 27 Q's - all QRP and contrary to the misconception I had a couple of QRO stations answer my CQ test and they even volunteered to lower their power to a few watts. One guy was so excited that he first was able to hear me and give me a super report (I must have been on the peak of one of those crests) and then he was happy when I gave him a 599 and then when he went to 4 watts I gave him a 579. A new qrp surfer was born. By the way I was really happy to actually work a sand shovel full of Colorado QRP members.

And, and to top the evening off - the last breaker set had a quick opening from the East Coast and who answers my CQ test but Dave Benson NN1G ON 20 METERS. Why is this so note worthy? - well I suspected Dave was using his new beta version of the Small Wonders Lab rig for 20 meters (this may raise a few eyebrows since the original New England QRP club 4040 and 3040 washed out above 30 meters). Anyway dudes, Dave has added some circuitry and this NEW rig will first be announced to the QRP world in the next issue of the New England QRP Club (or is that the QRP Club of New England) "72" newsletter. So if you are not a member of the New England QRP Club and don't get their great newsletter - you better sign up now since you're going to miss this "special" introduction (almost as big (qrp style) as Windows 95). Oh, by the way, this "sighting" of Dave's new rig was like the late summer "sightings" you hear reported on the new "96" automobiles. Dave's rig sounded great - nice and stable - good tone, etc. Coming to your dealer's showroom soon ...

73/72 Bob V01DRB/WA6ERB

Bob Gobrick	V01DRB/WA6ERB/VE2DRB	Newfoundland, Canada
QRPer	Galore - QRP	ARCI, GQRP, NORCAL, NEQRP, COQRP, MIQRP, NWQRP
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From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Aug 29 19:38:00 1995
From: jason@persoft.com (Jason F. Penn)
Subject: [2902] CQ QRPers in San Jose
Message-ID: <m0snXCf-0001T0C@persoft.persoft.com>

Greetings. I will be in San Jose, CA. attending the "Embedded Systems Conference" September 12-17. My dance card is fairly full, but I expect to for sure have between friday afternoon and sunday morning to go/do as I wish.

A few "must stop by" places for me are Fry's, Weird Stuff, and maybe Computer Literacy. I'd like to hook up with some QRP-L folks in the area for dinner (Two Guy's from Italy?) or surplus electronics scrounging.

Ob. QRP:

It seems like the thread about a QRPP to QRP mod has quieted down. I found a cute little Palomar Electronics TX-75 3-30MHz amp at Dayton. My Sierra needs to drive it a bit harder than the 2W it is currently capable of to get more power from the amp. This thing is dirt simple inside and I suspect it was made back in the late 70's or early 80's as a CB amp. So... is there a consensus about tweaking the Sierra output up by 3db or so by fiddling with the drive? Is it likely this Palomar is noisy? I *will* get it on a spectrum analyzer before it goes on the air. There isn't any band-specific filtering. My goal is to use this amp in a mobile with a "screwdriver" antenna, which is high Q. Will a high Q antenna reduce spurious emissions substantially?

Lastly, has anyone homebrewed a diode QSK for this power level (max 75W)?

Thanks and 73 de Jason
--

Jason F. Penn N9RPT | Persoft, Inc. | jason@persoft.com
Whenever I want to find something, it's always in the last place I look.

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Aug 29 19:38:00 1995
From: "Timothy J. Pettibone" <tpettibo@NMSU.Edu>
Subject: [2900] CQC Summer QSO Party

Message-ID: <Pine.A32.3.91.950829102256.34021A-100000@hector>

Had an emergency trip to Santa Fe (about 300 miles north of Las Cruces) on Saturday. Hit the road back just about 1800Z Sunday. Had the QRP+ on the floor (right next to the OHR Wattmeter), a 20m Hamstick on roof of the Caravan (on a Lakeview 3 magnet mount). Had tried the Inducti-match but it vibrated off in about 150 miles (they do warn you but darn). Didn't matter, my SWR was about 1.3:1 anyway. No ground. 4 Watts out. Bencher paddle on my knee (no fast turns here bud).

Worked 7 stations (CA, CO, GA, OR, UT, WA). All but one were QRP. Only three had CQC numbers and I got 6 names. So, if my math is correct, total score was $(3*6+4*4)*6*6=1224$. Won't be a winner but what fun! Never thought I'd try cw mobile but Smitty and others convinced me otherwise. Out here in the desert it's lots of fun. I don't operate when driving through Albuquerque and other places of congestion. The wife preferred it when I wore my headset too. Can't say that I blame her.

Tim AB50U

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Aug 29 19:38:00 1995
From: "Gary Utz" <UTZ@mis_prod.nov.mis.bnl.gov>
Subject: [2896] NE QRP Club
Message-ID: <MAILQUEUE-101.950829082912.448@mis_prod.nov.mis.bnl.gov>

Would someone please send me membership info for the New England QRP Club. I am from NY and am not sure if I qualify...

72, Getting Back Into QRP (ke2yk)
Gary Utz
Technical Systems
Brookhaven National Laboratory
PO Box 5000 Bldg 459
Upton N.Y. 11973
(Phone)516-282-5903 (Fax)516-282-4445

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Aug 29 19:38:00 1995
From: BCdlr@aol.com
Subject: [2903] Small Amp
Message-ID: <950829163151_86372589@mail06.mail.aol.com>

There was some talk about the Ramsey QRP power amp not being so good. 1) How

about the W1FB amp in the April '89 QST, (FAR sells the boards, not many parts)? Uses 1 or 2 IRF511's, 12 or 25 watts. I would drive it with an HW8, recommended drive is 0.5w. 2) Do I use an attenuator, or just turn the Loading down? Also the transformers are those little binocular core things, BN-43-3312. Everybody has them laying around, (they are also in almost every 300 to 75 ohm TV balun as well). 3) If one could determine that they were ferrite and the right size wouldn't these guys work, (every hamfest has some guy selling these by the bucket)?
Dan Reynolds, bcdlr@aol.com, KB9JLO

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Aug 29 19:38:00 1995
From: GREGOIRE@VALLEY.NET (ERNEST GREGOIRE)
Subject: [2898] Re: <LONG>QRP+MOD FOR W1AW TROUBLE
Message-ID: <199508291351.JAA24636@dartvax.dartmouth.edu>

Hello Bill, I talked to Bruce Franklin from Index last night. He will check for the spur problems as a result of doing this mod. I imagine this will take a whlie. So this mod being what it is , is not the whole answer to the W1AW trouble. I noticed the frequency display is off by 200 Hz now. This is due to having to take the rig almost completely apart to do the mod. I also forgot to replace the foam pads that are jamed between the boards. This caused microphonics like you wouldnt believe. I will replace them tonight.

So, although this mod did help with the overload problem, it is not the complete answer. If a few of us do this mod and get similar relults, then I believe this will help Bruce to home in on the final fix.

I had copmany last night and didn't get the diagram scanned. I'll do it soon though.

>Ernie, I would be interested in the mod. I too have the W1AW problem here
>in Merrimack NH. I haven't noticed the whistle prob yet, but didn't realize
>the W1AW prob 'till you mentioned it :-)
>Tnx in adv.
>Bill, AA10C
>
de AA1IK (Lead by example, It is much easier)

Ernie Gregoire
Canaan, NH.

(to pull a string than it is to push it.)
(
(
(_____)

e-mail : GREGOIRE@VALLEY.NET
packet : AA1IK@WA1WOK.FN43FE.NH.USA

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Aug 29 19:38:00 1995
From: "David D. Meacham" <ddm@datatamers.com>
Subject: [2889] Re: Connectors for RG-174
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.950828171000.12458D-1000000@dt1.datatamers.com>

Jim,
You can get BNC's that fit RG-174. Look in Amphenol catalog or Kings.
72, Dave, W6EMD

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Aug 29 19:38:00 1995
From: "N100Q Tom R. @ MR01 29-Aug-1995 0901" <randolph@est.ENET.dec.com>
Subject: [2897] re: Connectors for RG-174
Message-ID: <9508291309.AA29902@us4rmc.pko.dec.com>

BNC connectors for RG174 exist... you see lots of them at the flea markets
around here. I don't think RatShack sells 'em, but Mouser and Digi-Key both
sell the crimp-on type, and Digi-Key also sells the clamp type.

The real place to order this stuff is Pasternack Enterprises
PO Box 16759
Irvine, CA 92713
(714) 261 1920

Get their catalog... they have *everything*.

-Tom R. N100Q randolph@est.enet.dec.com

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Aug 29 19:38:00 1995
From: aa7qy@primenet.com (Roger Hightower)
Subject: [2899] RE: Correction
Message-ID: <199508291628.JAA04521@mailhost.primenet.com>

>To: "Sumner, Dave, K1ZZ" <dsumner@arrl.org>
>From: aa7qy@primenet.com (Roger Hightower)

>Subject: RE: Correction
>
>
>>With regard to 7.040 MHz as a QRP frequency, it is we and not the rest of
>>the world who are the odd man out. Here is the text of a letter on the
>>subject that I sent to W0HEP earlier this year which you may find of
>>interest.
>>
>(Long text deleted....if a qrp-l member wants a copy, pse e-mail
>me direct and I will forward)
>
>Thanks for the response, David. I have heard from some Europeans who
>also let me know that we Americans were "off freq", as it were. Guess
>I should have done some more homework.
>
>Tnx agn es 73, de Roger, AA7QY
>
aa7qy@primenet.com NorCal #1099 NEQRP #383

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Tue Aug 29 19:38:00 1995
From: "Mark J. Dulcey" <mdulcey@pryder.pn.com>
Subject: [2904] RE: Correction
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.950829161511.325A-100000@pryder.pn.com>

On Tue, 29 Aug 1995, Roger Hightower wrote:

> >To: "Sumner, Dave, K1ZZ" <dsumner@arrl.org>
> >From: aa7qy@primenet.com (Roger Hightower)
> >Subject: RE: Correction
> >
> >
> >>With regard to 7.040 MHz as a QRP frequency, it is we and not the rest of
> >>the world who are the odd man out. Here is the text of a letter on the
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> >>interest.
> >>
> >(Long text deleted....if a qrp-l member wants a copy, pse e-mail
> >me direct and I will forward)
> >
> >Thanks for the response, David. I have heard from some Europeans who
> >also let me know that we Americans were "off freq", as it were. Guess
> >I should have done some more homework.

US and rest-of-the-world frequency usage on 40 meters is very different because of the difference in band allocation. In most of the world, the 40 meter band is only 100KHz wide; only region 3 (North and South America) gets the use of 7.100 to 7.300. (Those frequencies are used for shortwave broadcasting elsewhere.)

Adopting the frequency allocations used by the rest of the world is not necessarily a good answer for us here in the US. The fact is that there are a LOT of us here. If we tried to adopt the European bandplan here, the low end of 40 would be hopelessly overcrowded with CW and digital signals, and the segment from 7050 to 7100 would be empty (it's used for voice in other parts of the world, but US hams aren't allowed to use voice modes there).

The current QRP calling frequency was chosen to avoid the heavy DXing (mostly very QRO) at the low end of the band. If we were to move QRP elsewhere, we would experience a lot more interference from the big guns.

Canada, of course, gets caught with conflicting interests. On the one hand, they want to set up their bandplan to avoid areas of heavy US usage (thus Canadians are allowed to operate in voice modes in parts of the HF bands where US operators are not); on the other hand, they have to peacefully coexist with their neighbors south of the border.

In the particular case of the digital allocations in Canada, I believe they would be well advised NOT to adopt this proposal. Presumably this proposal happened because of pressure from the phone operators to get at the 7050-7100 segment, which pushes other modes farther down the band. Although it would accomplish that, it would have devastating effects on QRP operation in North America, including Canadian QRP operators (who presumably contact the US much more often than Europe or other parts of the world).

The best solution would be for the 40 meter band to be 300KHz wide for the entire world. But that isn't going to happen anytime soon. The US proposed a wider world-wide 40 meter allocation at the last WARC, but there was no significant support for it, and lots of opposition from broadcasters. Unfortunately for us, the 39 meter SW band is one of the most useful and popular ones, as it allows reliable coverage of a 500-1500 kilometer area on a daily and nightly basis. (Of course, that's why it's a popular ham band as well.)

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Tue Aug 29 19:38:00 1995

From: "rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>

Subject: [2901] RE: Hi QRP SWR on R7 vertical vs. QRO

Message-ID: <n1402424428.42539@msmailgw1.arlut.utexas.edu>

Bill and the group:

The difference in SWR with your QRO vs QRP rig indicates there is some corrosion or oxidation in the contacts between element sections, traps, or other connections. It breaks down when you feed higher power to the vertical R7, and does not overcome the barrier potential of the semi-conducting joint with QRP power. It does not matter to the QRP rig whether you have a DC ground on the antenna, IF the cap coupling the output network to the final transistor is acting like a capacitor and only passing RF, and not the DC collector voltage.

When you take down the vertical and disassemble it, clean the joints of the aluminum well, to break down surface oxidation, then use some No Ox or similar conductive jelly product to inhibit future corrosion of the joints, immediately. Even if you do not assemble them right away, the corrosion MUST be inhibited or it will shortly appear again. Steel Wool might be use, but a wire brush might be better to avoid particles of steel wool getting into traps. "Butter its Not" from Butternut Antennas can also be used. No Ox is what is used between copper and Aluminum electric wiring and can be bought at electrical supply houses and home centers.

As you reassemble the antenna, check that the traps are working with an Autek RF-1 or MFJ Antenna Analyzer. Some R7 trap failures have been reported on this list in the past. I have seen a wind Damaged R5 still give low QRO SWR with some of the upper section missing! Apparently, the bandwidth will suffer first; before the SWR goes all to pot.

Good Luck with it,

Stuart K5KVH

(PS Anybody work all those VK's on 30M around 0600Z last nite, N. A. time? They had some Q5 sigs from Melbourne, but my less than 3W did not catch one, yet! I think it was the lack of QSK with the rig I was using, commercial one with power turned down. Need to get a 30M module for the Scout!)

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Tue Aug 29 19:38:00 1995

From: msdooley@rdxsunhost.aud.alcatel.com (Michael S. Dooley)

Subject: [2894] RE: Mice

Message-ID: <9508291203.AA02716@collie.aud.alcatel.com>

> Some years ago I noticed electricians using a putty-type substance
> to fill and seal holes around conduits containing the electric
> service lines coming into my home. I looked for and found this
> "stuff" in an electrical supply house.
> It has the consistency of modeling clay (which would

> probably be just as effective) and can be stuffed into
> any type opening.

[snip]

I believe the stuff you mention is called 'dummy' (I know, I know). At least that's the name I recall from my days pulling wires and bending conduit. (and yes it's been a few).

> Norm, K2NF

Mike KE4PC

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Aug 29 19:38:00 1995

From: aa7qy@Primenet.Com (Roger Hightower)

Subject: [2893] RE: NC40A MOD KEYER/FREQ COUNTER

Message-ID: <199508290504.WAA28752@mailhost.primenet.com>

I spoke with Bob Dyer today, and here is the info he gave me on the new KC1 kit:

A .8 x 2.5" board with a programmable chip, with three functions:

- 1) Iambic keyer
- 2) Memory keyer
- 3) Frequency counter

Included are the chip, speed pot, message play/record button and frequency readout button (CW, last three digits). Accuracy +/- 1 Khz.

The freq readout button will also allow you to input a freq, and as you tune the dial, you will hear a tone when within 2 KHz of the desired frequency. Pretty cool, if you want to jump on a cluster spot.

Bob says the unit will work on any transceiver up to 30 MHz.

Price: \$44.50 + \$2.00 s/h. CA residents add tax.

Check/M.O. ok, no credit cards.

He hopes to ship in a week or so.

Wilderness Radio

P.O. Box 734

Los Altos, CA 94023-0734

72/73, de Roger, AA7QY

aa7qy@primenet.com

NorCal #1099

NEQRP #383

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Aug 29 19:38:00 1995
From: prvalko <prvalko@Oakland.edu>
Subject: [2891] Re: Radio Shack 'probe-style oscilloscope'
Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.3.91.950828210612.5992A-100000@saturn.acs.oakland.edu>

On Mon, 28 Aug 1995, Bill Meahan wrote:

< SNIP! Stuff about R/S new 'scope >

> ObQRP: I built an OHR Sprint (30M version) but when I adjust R5 (the

< SNIP! Obligatory QRP paragraph deleted >

I LOVE it!!!

ObQRP : What was the contest this weekend? I worked a couple guys out east on 40CW, they each gave me their power levels as < 5W. I was just fooling around with my MFJ-9040... I wanted to use the NC40a, but my keyer is up at the cottage... sure would like a built in keyer for the NC40a. The MFJ, at 5W, is a tad too QRO for my tastes.

73 =paul= wb8zjl

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Aug 29 19:38:00 1995
From: PDouglas12@aol.com
Subject: [2892] Re: Radio Shack 'probe-style oscilloscope'
Message-ID: <950828215341_85738465@mail06.mail.aol.com>

Hi Bill,

I think your non-linear output control is quite normal. Below a certain point, there just isn't enough drive on the final to make it "go." And when you think about it all devices have a linear zone, below and above which the device just isn't linear. On the OHR you should find it very touchy below say half a watt and it will flatten out at about 1.5W or so depending on band. At least that's how mine works--and my other '602 based rigs are similar. 72, Preston